



Computer Systems Policy Project

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Craig R. Barrett
Intel Corporation

April 20, 2005

Mark V. Hurd
Hewlett-Packard
Company

The Honorable William M. Thomas
Chairman
House Committee on Ways and Means
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Joseph McGrath
Unisys Corporation

Samuel J. Palmisano
IBM Corporation

Dear Chairman Thomas:

James M. Ringler
NCR Corporation

As members of the Computer Systems Policy Project (CSPP), we are writing to urge Congress to pass the U.S. - Dominican Republic, Central American Free Trade Agreement (U.S.-D.R.-CAFTA).

Kevin Rollins
Dell Inc.

CSPP is a CEO policy advocacy organization focused on ensuring U.S. competitiveness through technology leadership. CSPP promotes an agenda that drives innovation, boosts U.S. technology advancements and fosters robust economic growth.

Mike Splinter
Applied Materials, Inc.

Joseph Tucci
EMC Corporation

Trade and access to overseas markets are essential to the growth, health and success of CSPP companies, our employees across America, our customers, as well as our vendors and suppliers. Access to foreign markets is critical to our industry because for the majority of our companies, more than 60 percent of revenues come from overseas. Trade agreements are the tools we use to open markets to U.S. information technology goods and services. Congressional passage of the implementing legislation for the U.S.-D.R.-CAFTA represents an important opportunity to further these objectives.

Ed Zander
Motorola, Inc.

Bruce P. Mehlman
Executive Director

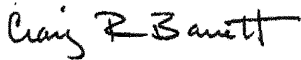
This important agreement will increase our industry's access to a growing market. Tariff elimination is a high priority because the United States already provides duty-free access for information technology products. As part of the agreement, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua will join Costa Rica and El Salvador as members of the Information Technology Agreement and eliminate tariffs on U.S. information technology product exports. This will save U.S. technology exporters millions of dollars annually and help expand a growing market that today is worth more than \$2.5 billion in U.S. high-tech exports.

The U.S.-D.R.-CAFTA agreement incorporates forward-looking provisions in services, intellectual property, and e-commerce, as well as in the areas of labor and environment. The countries have made commitments in all services sectors with narrow exceptions, which will lead to important reforms in the telecommunications sector in Costa Rica, provide market access for computer and related services, and create other new opportunities for the U.S. high-tech industry. Strong intellectual property protections and e-commerce provisions that ensure non-discrimination and national treatment for digital products, such as software, help establish important precedents for future bilateral, regional, and multilateral agreements.

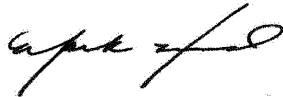
Finally, sales and exports to foreign markets will increasingly be the engine of growth for our industry. It is, therefore, critical that the U.S. continue to pursue an aggressive trade agenda. The U.S.-D.R.-CAFTA is not only an important market in and of itself; it is a building block towards hemispheric free trade and is essential to maintaining the forward momentum in the global World Trade Organization talks.

We appreciate continued Congressional support for a progressive U.S. trade agenda. We look forward to working with you to pass this important trade agreement.

Sincerely,



Craig R. Barrett
CEO
Intel Corporation
Chairman, CSPP



Mark V. Hurd
President & CEO
Hewlett-Packard Company



Joseph McGrath
President & CEO
Unisys Corporation



Samuel J. Palmisano
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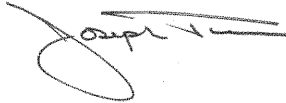
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Director & CEO
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